



MONTEREY NEWS

September 2003
VOLUME XXXIII · Number 9



The Town

August was a month of near-record rainfall due to an epidemic of heavy afternoon thunderstorms, disappointing those who wanted to see our planetary neighbor, Mars, until clear skies bloomed late in the month. A stormy atmosphere also hovered over Town Hall for the first several weeks, but the *Sturm und Drang* there has also yielded to an improved climate through citizen encouragement and Select Board effort.

Prompted by a letter of resignation from Barbara Gauthier, the Town Accountant, a group of citizens approached the Select Board to question the methodology of and lack of civility by the Board in dealing with personnel issues and other town business, and to encourage the Board to take a more respectful approach in their dealings with one another and with others. Gauthier's letter took Select Board members Brown and Sylbert to task for "making the town office a war zone" in dealing with an internal personnel matter regarding Administrative Assistant Bonnie Jurgenson. Jurgenson had received a letter of reprimand from Board members Sylbert and Brown, and a separate letter from Board member Michèle Miller. The Board had met several times in executive session to discuss the personnel issue, and came out of those meetings loudly divided over both process and conclusions. Discussions quickly became rancorous, heated, and counter-productive.

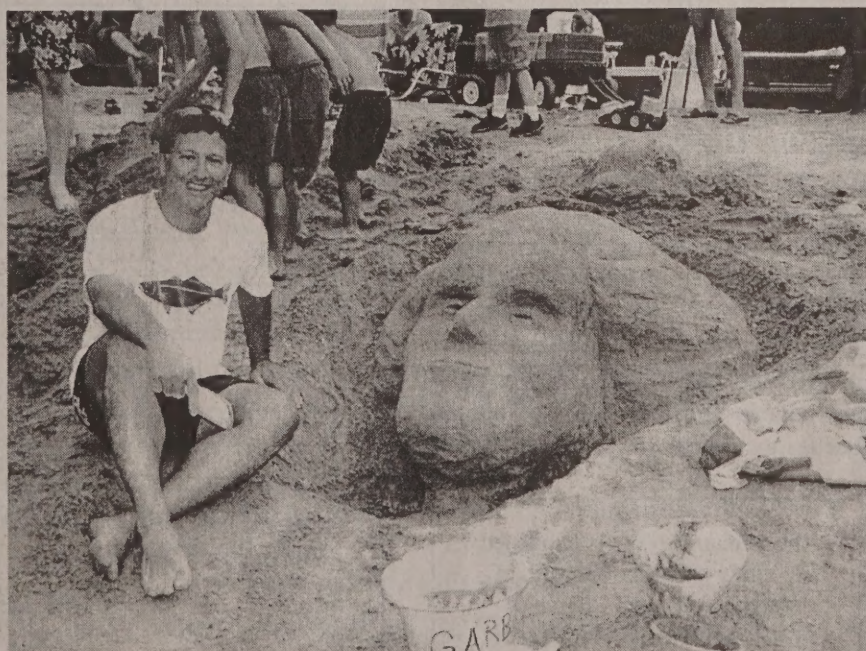
In discussing the matter with the Select Board during their regular August 12th meeting at Town Hall, voters (many of whom regularly attend Select Board meetings) pointed out that there was enough blame to go around for all three

Select Board members, and urged them to put aside egos and personality issues in favor of working together for the good of the town. The Board, who professed shock

and deep regret at the prospect of Gauthier's resignation, reached out to her by letter and then at their August 18th meeting, apologizing and promising to



Jean Germain



Richard Edelstein

Faces of LakeFest 2003

make every effort at reform, and Gauthier agreed to resume her post on the condition that efforts to achieve a more harmonious approach be made and that the letter reprimanding Jurgenson be withdrawn. The Board agreed, and meetings held since then have been cordial and positive.

While the Board does not always expect to reach agreement on every issue, they have undertaken the mutual obligation of maintaining a professional tone, hearing minority opinions respectfully, and appropriately addressing personnel issues using proper procedures, including having on file clear job descriptions for key personnel.

Estimated Tax Bills Likely

Due to the new appointments to the Board of Assessors, and the as-yet unfilled position of a professional Assessor, there remains a need to complete the inventory of building permits issued and new construction and growth undertaken for the past year. Given that, it appears unlikely that tax bills could be generated by October 1, and thus voluntary estimated tax bills will be the pattern again this year. The Board of Assessors (Stan Róss, Rick Mielke, and Ricardo Boehm) is working diligently to file exemptions in a timely manner, bring themselves up to speed, and clear the backlog of accumulated work, and they have begun accumulating resumes and letters of interest in filling the position of Assessor.

Loosestrife, the Boat Ramp, and the Geese

Pat Edelstein presented her hopes for controlling the purple loosestrife currently infesting Brewer Pond by initiating a program to distribute a particular species of beetle, which eats nothing but loosestrife. Tim Smith of the Department of Wildlife has evaluated Brewer Pond and believes it is amenable to using the beetles to control the pernicious weed.

The town will have to discuss all this at a public hearing and vote on the funding.

The LGA will be distributing leaflets to households to educate people about the beetles and the loosestrife, and people can also help by digging out the loosestrife and bagging it for disposal—anything less just spreads the plant or its seeds. Permitting is done by the state, which will also supply the beetles at a cost of \$500 a year for three years. The LGA volunteers would monitor the pond, beginning as early as this fall, to establish a baseline count of the number of plants. The beetles, which cling to the plants and are not free swimming, are self-limiting: once they run out of loosestrife, they die off until a balance is achieved between food supply and population. The next step is a meeting between Edelstein and the Conservation Commission.

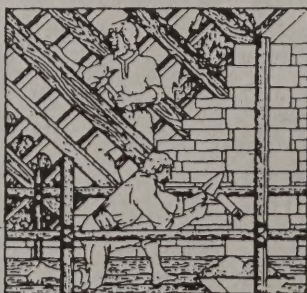
Several people have complained about the amount of goose poop on the beach. A pooperscoop was purchased at the beginning of the season, but disappeared, and has only recently been replaced. The lifeguards have the responsibility to make every effort to keep the beach clean. The geese continue to be a problem, inhabiting the beach in the early morning. Regular and ongoing testing of the water quality of the lake at the beach has not revealed a problematic rise in coliform or other bacteria, however.

The town's parks, which include the beach, Greene Park (the ball field, basketball court, and playground), Bidwell Park, and the Revolutionary Parade Ground, come under the authority of the Park Commission, chaired by Leroy Thorpe.

The Select Board continues to work on the problem of finding a site for a potential boat ramp. Three sites are currently under consideration, with clarity needed regarding ownership, the rights of others who may be involved, and resolution on which site is best and what potential costs might be.

Second Homeowners Meeting

The regular annual meeting between the Select Board and second homeowners was held on August 16th. Numbers attending were down somewhat from prior years, and while the conversation was generally positive, there was concern on the part of some second homeowners about a perception of apathetic or even negative attitudes about the lake held by some year-rounders. They were also unhappy with the number of dogs allowed to run loose and with the growth of weeds in the lake. A portion of the meeting was spent with their describing what some of them feel is a hostile attitude on the part of townspeople toward them. One example cited was the picture of the motor-



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cyclists over the caption "Summer residents return" on the front page of the July *Monterey News*.

The Select Board responded that they greatly appreciated the input from this constituency, that passage of the Scenic Mountains Act by the town indicates the town's strong concern for maintaining the quality of the watershed of the lake, and that there is a town bylaw mandating that dogs be under an owner's control. Problem animals should be reported to the Animal Control Officer.

Edith Wilson House

Wilson House Committee members (Gige O'Connell, Shirley Olds, Lew Scheffey, Gerry Shapiro, and Claudia Weldon) met with the Select Board and have been charged with investigating whether the town is meeting its legal obligations with regard to maintaining the house as well as looking into ideas for the future of the property. Various possible uses have been floated in the past, including a community center, a town hall, a library, museum, a new home for the Historic Society, etc., but basic maintenance is ongoing and there are both foundation issues and the need for a new roof that take priority. The group will report back to the Select Board.

Michelle Miller



Haying at Lowland Farm

Solid Waste Committee

The Committee has met under the leadership of Mike Feltser and recommended to the Select Board that the fine for dumping without a permit be increased to \$100 for the first offense. The Select Board concurred, and the notion will be put on the warrant for next May's town meeting. Several households have asked for and received the bright pink placards which may be used as proof of permit by multiple users of a house, and the placards are available at the Administrative Assistant's desk if the household has paid the annual fee for use of the transfer station.

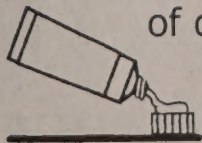
All Boards Meeting

The Select Board called a quarterly meeting of delegates from all town boards and committees on August 13th to discuss current work and future projects and to open lines of communication between the various boards and with the Select Board. "Coordination of this many boards is not an easy task," said Selectman Peter Brown. The meeting was well attended: a great many townspeople are actively engaged in volunteering their time and energy on town boards and committees. Democracy at work!

— K. Wasiuk

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Fifth Annual Firemen's Ball Set for Oct 11

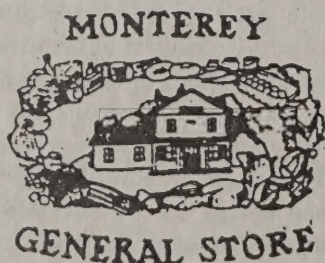
The Monterey Fire Co.Ltd. cordially invites everyone to the Fifth Annual Fireman's Ball, to be held on Saturday, October 11, 2003, from 6:30 to 11:00 p.m. at the Monterey Firehouse.

- * Cash Bar Cocktail Hour
- * Hors D' Oeuvres
- * Dinner Buffet
- * Intermission Entertainment
- * Dancing to the Sounds of
The Carlin Big Band
- * "Party" Dress or
Firefighter Uniform
- * Reservations Required

For Additional Information, call
413-528-2982.

Flu Clinic Oct. 9

The Flu Clinic will be held early this year, on October 9, 2003, from 9:00-11:00 a.m. It will take place in the Select Board office, the same as last year.



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Rain Doesn't Dampen LakeFest Spirit

Though the weatherman was less than cooperative (enough with the rain, already!) LakeFest 2003, on August 16th, lived up to the billing of free fun for all!

This special day included a long list of activities for young and old alike, starting with the FISHING DERBY at the Berkshires Fish Hatchery, thanks to the sponsors, the Isaac Walton league. In all 49 children participated in the Fishing Derby. The largest fish was caught by Erik Fredsall—17 1/4". The second largest was caught by John Field III, 16 1/2", and the third largest by Raeanne Zigler, 15 3/4". Other top prize winners included Cody Funk, Randon Zigler, Nicolle Orsi, and Brian Hillard. (LeRoy Thorpe says the pond on River Road/Hatchery Road is open for fishing by kids all the time now.)

AND then there was the REPLICA TRYON'S TEA ROOM, a place to refresh and remember. For your efforts, we toast you, Wendy Benjamin, Carol Husten, and Eileen Lawlor. AND how about the GALLERY of local artists, assembled in the meetinghouse, by the flower lady, Eileen Lawlor. A beautiful job, Eileen!

AND the NATURE WALKS around Brewer Pond, led by the very capable Bonner McAllester and Bob Rausch (Ewell Gibbon would have been proud).

And that was about it? I don't think so! There was Ron McMahon CANOEING kids through the tunnel to Brewer

Pond. Thank you, Ron. That is such a kick! AND free KAYAK RIDES courtesy of Expeditions, who paddled all the way from Main Street, in Great Barrington, for the second year in a row. Much appreciated by all. Many thanks. AND free MOTOR BOAT RIDES captained by volunteers who risked their lives under thunderous skies. Well, not quite. Dean and Fran Amidon, our boat dispatchers, wisely brought the fleet home when the weather began to look ominous. Yeah, Amidons! AND meanwhile back at the beach, FACE PAINTING brought out the smiles. Thanks to Myra Rodriguez and all her helpers. AND there was SANDCASTLE BUILDING. AND the "GREEN" ARTS & CRAFTS. AND the PAPER BOATS & FLOTILLA. AND even FREE ICE CREAM, facilitated and funded by Del Martin Automotive. That Del is one cool dude!

AND then came the POTLUCK DINNER, coordinated and decorated by Myrna Rosen, where Montereyans showed their culinary prowess, cooking up dishes that were so scrumptious no one even noticed it was raining. (Except when two hot dog buns sailed off the buffet table to join the paper boat flotilla.)

AND then came . . . more rain. Alas, the SQUARE DANCING that was to be led by Carl Finger was, indeed, rained out. And everybody ran for the hills. The rest of the evening was cancelled. The fireworks were postponed until the following week. There was no joy in Monterey. "But, wait! The weather is clearing! Come back! The activities will continue, tonight. There will be fireworks! Tell your friends!

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Faces of LakeFest 2003 (photos by Jean Germain)

One, if by land . . ." After some aggravation and trepidation the revocation of the cancellation brought great celebration. (She sells sea shells . . .)

AND then came the CAMPFIRE & MARSHMALLOWS tended by BOB RAUSCH, one hot dude. Bravo Bob!

AND the entertainment of BOLOS LEVADOS (Portuguese Sweet Bread), music to our ears. Encore! Encore!

AND then the BOTTOM OF THE BUCKET BAND, tops in our book. Bravo, gentlemen!

AND, finally, came the FIREWORKS, a dazzling display orchestrated by Dave Lewis, a real firecracker himself. (You'll be relieved to know that was the last of the groan-inducing puns.)

LakeFest is the brainchild, blood, sweat, and tears of the Lake Garfield Association, www.lakegarfield.org. As you might imagine, it involves a ton of hard work, from selling posters at the

General Store to raise funds, to endless hours of preparation, execution, and cleanup. A great big "thank you" to all the volunteers who helped make LakeFest happen.

AND to Monterey's business community (see adjacent list), without whose generous contributions the day would have surely fizzled, we offer our sincerest of thanks. Monterey, please take your business to LakeFest sponsors.

AND three cheers for Chief Tryon and the Monterey Fire Department— AND three more cheers for Chief Backhaus and the Monterey Police Department for watching over LakeFest and keeping us safe.

Thanks to these FIREWORKS sponsors:
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Oil Paint, Waste Motor Oil, and Hazardous Materials Collections Schedule

Residents of Monterey and the other towns that form the South Berkshire Household Hazardous Waste Collaborative may bring used motor oil and oil-based paints to the locations listed below. Acceptable materials are: unwanted oil paint, stains, paint thinners and turpentine as well as used motor oil. Preregistration is required by calling the Center for Ecological Technology (CET) at 445-4556 or 800-238-1221, or e-mail jamiec@cetonline.org.

Wednesday, September 3, 4 p.m.-7 p.m., Great Barrington Transfer Station, Route 7, across from Monument Mountain High School.

Saturday, September 20, 9 a.m.-11 a.m., Otis Transfer Station, West Center Road.

Saturday, October 4, 9 am - 11 am, Lenox: Department of Public Works, 275 Main St./Route 7A, across from Mass Highway offices.

A Household Hazardous Waste Collection is planned for **Saturday, October 18, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** at the Great Barrington Recycling Center, Route 7, across from Monument Mountain High School. Residents may bring household hazardous products for safe disposal or product recycling. The program is free to residents of participating towns. An appointment is required.

Most products that have labels with the words "caution, toxic, poison or flammable" can be brought to the collection and should not be discarded in the trash. Paint thinners and solvents, pesticides,

gasoline, and drain cleaners are examples of acceptable items. Products that contain mercury, such as fever thermometers and button batteries, found in watches and hearing aides, are accepted. Rechargeable cell-phone and tool batteries are accepted as well. Alkaline batteries can be disposed of in household trash.

The average American household generates approximately 20 pounds of hazardous waste each year. Proper disposal reduces air and water pollution and helps to protect public health and the environment.

Residents who bring their mercury fever thermometers can receive one free non-mercury replacement. A broken fever thermometer can cause health problems when one inhales the mercury vapors, or when the skin is exposed. Mercury can cause environmental and other health problems if it is thrown into the trash. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection is providing the digital thermometers (supplies are limited). It is important to package the glass thermometers so they do not break.

Latex paint will not be collected at any of these events. Dried latex paint can be disposed of with regular trash. Kitty litter or newspaper can be used to absorb the excess liquid until it is dry. Empty cans of oil-based paint, stains, and solvents can be disposed with regular trash.>



Fall Harvest Festival at Bidwell House

Come to the Bidwell House Museum on Saturday, September 20, from 12 noon-4 p.m. for a day of country fun including cider pressing, pumpkin painting, tomato tasting from the Historic Garden, music, tours of the house and gardens and more!

Admission for the event: \$5 for the program, \$8 for program and house tour. Children under 12 free.

The Bidwell House Museum is located at 100 Art School Road, Monterey. For more information, call 528-6888 or go to www.bidwellhousemuseum.org.

To make an appointment, or for information about what can be brought to the collections, go to <http://www.cetonline.org/Events/events.htm#collections>, call CET at 1-800-238-1221, or e-mail jamiec@cetonline.org.

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Updating the Church Mailing List

We of the church are trying to bring order to our mailing list. As of now, the church has several lists of names of people who have in some way contributed to the life of the church and/or the meeting-house over the past several years. Some were likely people who consider themselves in some way members of the church family, either immediate or extended, whereas others likely meant to contribute financially once to the meetinghouse fund without implying any longer-term commitment. We appreciate the involvement of all, on whatever terms, and want to express that appreciation by keeping on our mailing list those who want to be included and removing from the list those who no longer want to receive stewardship solicitations. If you know your name is on the list from recent mailings and would like to have it removed, please contact the church office. Likewise, if your name is not on the list and you would like to be included, please be in touch. Finally, if your name is on the list but spelled incorrectly or you have new contact information, please let us know. The office phone number is 528-5850 and e-mail address is montucc@bcn.net.

— Elizabeth Goodman

Eileen Lawlor

Wendy Benjamin and Carol Husten, the 2003 Tea Room ladies

Thanks to LakeFest Art Show Contributors

Thanks goes out to all of the fifteen artists/craftspeople who participated in this year's LakeFest Art Show, "Inside Monterey"! Your variety of entries were wonderfully creative and colorfully eye-catching, and the show turns the meeting-house basement into a room with amazing visual appeal.

Special thanks to my setup crew: Susan Johnson for her expert signage; Ethel Matusow, Marjorie Percus, and Stephanie Warner for their eye for arrangement; Elliott Matusow for that extra strong hand; and last but certainly not least, John MacDonald, who kept working (even after the rest of us tired) in order to see the show take on its final form.

Our Tea Room ladies, Wendy Benjamin and Carol Husten were hostesses par excellence providing a '50s welcome to the many gallery goers that day.

The special "artist statements"—typed and formatted so attractively by Hy Rosen and Barbara Green—tell the personal story of each of the participants and provides a meaningful context. Artists still not named but deserving of thanks as well are: Alan Roland, Peggy Braun, Emily Ewald, Sally Pullen, Alice O. Howell, Frank D'Amato, Michèle Miller,

Myrna Rosen, Pat Edelstein, Liz Steen, MaryKate Jordan, and The Monterey Piecemakers.

Working together on this kind of project provides all of us with a sense of place, here in this remarkable community, and the friendships begun will hopefully continue to evolve ... So see you at the post office, if not sooner. Again, many thanks!

— Eileen Lawlor

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September Harvest Festivals

It was a long, cold, snowy winter. It was a long, cold, rainy spring. It's been an uncharacteristically rainy summer. But September is scheduled to bring us its usual beautiful weather and bountiful crops, and with them three major Berkshire harvest festivals.

The first one up is Eastern Native Seeds Conservancy 7th Annual Epicurean Tomato Fete, to be held on Sunday, September 7, at Eastover Resort in Lenox. This annual tomato celebration grew out of ENSC's Heirloom Tomato Project, initiated in 1997 to encourage the preservation of delicious non-hybrid tomatoes, and to help create niche markets for the distinctive tomatoes our forebears enjoyed. ENSC's efforts are directed primarily at seeds of Native American origin. Among the many benefits provided by ENSC's seed saving program is the regeneration of native seeds, comfortable for generations in our climate and soil.

The first Tomato Fete was held at Wheatleigh in September 1997 and featured a sophisticated array of regional chefs; all creating elegant, savory, delicious tomato treats. As always, this year's Fete highlights many prominent chefs from around the Northeast, who will be preparing all sorts and types of dishes with tomatoes as the signature ingredient.



In addition to the wide array of elegant nibbles, this year's Fete features the First Annual King Ketchup Competition, an event sponsored in conjunction with Slow Food Berkshire Columbia. A ketchup competition at an Epicurean Fete? Well, yes. Ketchup has a long, proud history in America. Although we mostly associate ketchup with tomatoes, old-fashioned ketchups were made from a wide variety of ingredients, including blackberries, anchovies, mushrooms, oysters, and many other items we wouldn't have thought of, such as beer and rum.

A distinguished group of food writers, representing such magazines as *Fine Cooking*, *Saveur*, and *Food Arts*, will be on hand as judges of the ketchup contest. The four categories of ketchup for judging are: Red Tomato Ketchup (Heirloom), Non-Red Tomato Ketchup, Innovative Ketchup, and Red Tomato Ketchup (Open). The prize for best-in-show includes \$500—and an enormous amount of bragging rights as the first "King Ketchup."

The 7th Annual Epicurean Tomato Fete opens at 1:00 p.m., Sunday, September 7, at Eastover. Tickets are \$45. For information, call 413-229-8316.

Almost a week later, Saturday, September 13, Slow Food Berkshire Columbia will host its First Annual Food Festival on the grounds of the Shaker Museum & Library in Old Chatham, New York. The Berkshire Columbia Slow Food chapter is

a member of the international Slow Food organization, formed in Rome in 1986 in protest of a McDonald's built near the Spanish Steps. The organization grew quickly in Europe, where local food traditions are more distinct and honored, but took a bit longer to cross the Atlantic.

Now, however, there is a large and rapidly growing Slow Food USA that supports and celebrates such indigenous foods as the spices of Cajun cooking, heritage animal breeds, heirloom varieties of fruit and vegetables, handcrafted wine and beer, and artisanal cheeses.

Why the name Slow Food? Well-prepared food, with local, seasonal ingredients, eaten among friends and family in a congenial setting has been eclipsed in both Europe and America by fast food, industrialized food, standardized food. Every year, hundreds of thousands of acres of American farmland are lost to development; and family meals are but a memory in many homes. Hence, the devotion to an ideal—celebration of food, companionship, family, pleasure. Slow Food is good food.

Ruth Reichl, noted restaurant reviewer, author, and editor of *Gourmet*, will welcome guests at an opening address at the September 13 Food Festival. Chefs will be on hand to prepare tastings of local heritage and heirloom foods, and a Heritage Breeds Roast will feature spit roast beef, pork, and lamb. Activities during the day include live music, children's activities, and book signings. In the evening, several dozen Berkshire and Columbia County restaurants will be offering a Slow Food "dine around." For



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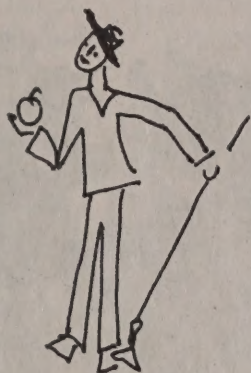
a complete list of these restaurants, call 413-528-6731.

The First Annual Slow Food Berkshire Columbia Food Festival runs from 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. on the grounds of the Shaker Museum & Library in Old Chatham, New York. Admission is \$15 for adults, with a \$3.00 discount for members of sponsoring organizations, including Berkshire Grown, New England Heritage Breeds Conservancy, the Real Foods Network of Columbia County, and the Shaker Museum & Library. Children 12 and under pay \$10. For information, call 518-794-9100, ext 218.

Berkshire Grown's 5th Annual Beautiful Bountiful Berkshires (BBB) will be held on Monday, September 22, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Eastover in Lenox. As always, guests will be offered a dazzling array of locally grown food prepared by several dozen Berkshire chefs who are paying tribute to our county's farmers.

Although the menus rarely get completed much before the event itself, you can expect dishes featuring heirloom tomatoes, heirloom apples, pears, shitake mushrooms, corn, fresh herbs, and fall vegetables such as beans, beets, carrots, pumpkins, and an extensive array of squashes. A huge variety of appetizers, soups, salads, and desserts will be produced with whipped cream and butter from Jersey cows, organic chicken, grass-fed beef, plus locally made chevre, cheddar, bleu cheese, and Camembert.

The Silent Auction is a traditional part of Berkshire Grown's BBB. A wide assortment of items will be available for bidding, including trips to Santa Fe and Provence. Dinners at local restaurants, and overnight stays at many of the gracious inns of the Berkshires are up for bid. Several caterers have offered private dinners for auction, and two local chefs have donated cooking classes. A wide array of garden items is up for grabs, plus spa days, nature outings, and theatre tickets.



One of the auction highlights is dinner and a show at Club Helsinki with *Berkshire Eagle* reporter Seth Rogovoy and WAMC host Susan Arbetter.

The Beautiful Bountiful Berkshires has become a "must do" event, and sells out each year. The party and its auction are vital fund-raisers for this organization that supports and promotes locally based agriculture as a vital part of a healthy Berkshire economy and landscape.

Tickets for the Beautiful Bountiful Berkshires are \$50, \$40 for members, and \$25 for farmers. Reservations are essential. Call 413-528-0041 for reservations and more information.

These harvest festivals are among your last chance to "buy local" at the end of the season. So make the most of September and attend at least one of these events—and preferably, all three!

—Laurily Epstein

Harvest Program for Children at Bidwell House

"Learning through the Land: Harvesting and Closing an Historic Vegetable Garden," a two-part educational program for children, will be held at the Bidwell House Historic Vegetable Garden on Saturday, September 20, from 10 a.m. to noon. The programs are free, but registration is required. Please call 413-528-6888 to register. The facilitator is Ann Hanchett

Part 1, "Harvest Time: Exploring Food Storage and Uses in the Eighteenth Century," participants will learn about how to recognize different varieties of vegetables, common recipes, and food storage techniques of the eighteenth century.

Part 2, "Closing the Garden and Seed Saving," will deal with the importance of heirloom seeds and how to preserve them for the next season, as well as how to prepare the garden for the long winter months.

Join us after the program for a Fall Harvest Festival, including cider pressing, pumpkin painting, and tomato tastings from the garden.

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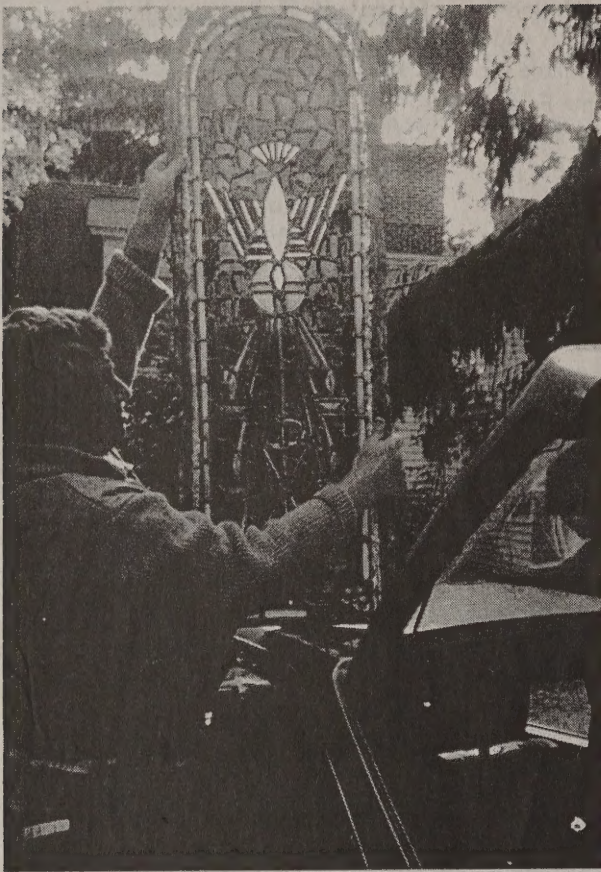


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*left: Fred Leuchs about to install the window over the altar at St. Paul's Church in Stockbridge
top right: Catherine Leuchs Bohrman working on a wax at Empire Bronze Foundry, Queens, New York
bottom right: Augustus Lukeman inspecting work at Stone Mountain in Atlanta Georgia*

Century-Old Lukeman Studio in October Showcase Used by Three Generations of Lukeman/Leuchs Family

Unknown to even most longtime residents of the Berkshires is a small artist studio near the intersection of Route 102 and Route 183 in Stockbridge. Built in the early 1900s by sculptor Augustus Lukeman, the studio was patterned after nearby Chesterwood. The sculptor Daniel Chester French, who worked and lived at Chesterwood, was Lukeman's mentor and associate. The studio has been in continuous use as an art studio for almost one hundred years. It is currently undergoing restoration. Bronze sculptor Catherine Leuchs Bohrman will be there working and exhibiting some of her bronze, alabaster and cast stone sculptures on the weekend of October 3. Her work will be exhibited beside that of her late father, Fred Leuchs, well-known stained-glass

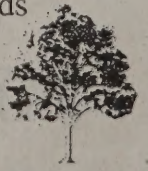
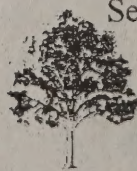
artisan, as well as with maquettes of Lukeman's sculptures created in the same space so many years ago.

Augustus Lukeman was born in Richmond, Virginia, and raised in New York City, where his talent was recognized by the Henry Street Settlement House. He studied at the National Academy of Design in New York, at the Ecole des Beaux

Arts in Paris, and received his L.H.D. from Dickinson College. In the late 1800s he came to Stockbridge to summer and then study with Daniel Chester French. He married a local art critic, Helen Bidwell of Stockbridge. They made their home at 160 West 86th Street in New York City and summered in Stockbridge. His most well-known monument is Stone Moun-

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tain near Atlanta, Georgia, but his work can be found throughout the country. His local works include the War Memorial in Pittsfield, the President McKinley Monument in Adams, the General William Shepard Monument in Westfield, and the Soldiers' Monument in Somerville.

His widow gave the Stockbridge studio to her niece, Marie Bidwell Leuchs, who grew up in Great Barrington, and her husband Fred Leuchs of New York City to use as a summer stained glass studio. A prolific artist, Fred Leuchs designed, created, and restored stained glass windows for some of the country's most prominent institutions and homes. His works include the U.S. Library of Congress, the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia, and St. Bartholomew's Church, St. Emeric's Church, Picasso House, the Strauss Memorial, the Cloisters, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. Locally he did the National Shrine of Divine Mercy and a window for St. Paul's Church in Stockbridge, two interior panels for the Bousquet Ski Area in Pittsfield, restoration on many churches in the area, and numerous works for private individuals. Marie Bidwell Leuchs still lives at their home in Monterey.

Currently, one of their five daughters, Catherine Leuchs Bohrman, who grew up in Monterey, is a professional sculptor. She comes up to the area seasonally to work and exhibit. She has exhibited and sold at local galleries in West Stockbridge and Tyringham. She has a piece at Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C. and one on the CNN NewNight set, and is currently working on several overseas commissions. She is represented in New York by the Long Island City Contemporary Art Gallery and her website is www.catherinebohrman.com. Her great uncle Augustus Lukeman had his sculpture cast at Roman Bronze in Queens, New York. Master craftsmen who were trained there now work at Empire Bronze where Catherine has her bronze casting done. On the weekend of October 3rd she will be working on plaster models at the Lukeman Studio at 3 Lukeman Lane in Stockbridge.

— Catherine Leuchs Bohrman

International Day of Peace, September 21, 2003

On September 21, the Berkshire community is invited to join in a worldwide celebration, the International Day of Peace. Around the globe millions of people will be celebrating a vision of a better world that unites us all regardless of race, government, or creed. In 2002, ninety-eight countries participated in observing this day of global unity and peaceful coexistence.

The International Day of Peace has been in existence since 1981, typically celebrated on the opening of the UN General Assembly's regular session. In an effort to recognize this day with a global cease-fire, the British filmmaker Jeremy Gilley founded the organization 'Peace One Day' in 1999. Due to Jeremy's efforts, the UN General Assembly adopted resolution Number 55-282, creating the first International Day of Peace and Cease-Fire, in September 2001.

The objectives of this celebration are: 1) to promote and raise awareness of the UN International Day of Peace, a day of global cease-fire and nonviolence; 2) to highlight activities around the world on the Day; 3) to bring together people from different cultures and backgrounds through celebration

and reflection; 4) to inspire and motivate individuals to become active in the peace process by using the Day as an annual focus for their efforts toward a peaceful society.

There are few holidays recognized simultaneously across the globe. Imagine how the Earth might look from a satellite if every country was reveling in a day of peace! Shifting our attention from a climate of conflict to a climate of peace can renew hope and inspire action. In South County, a local grassroots group is organizing an event to recognize the International Day of Peace in the Berkshires. To bring public awareness and commemorate this Day, local organizations, families, and individuals are invited to join in creating festivities with their talents, visions, and dreams. It could be as simple as a smile, a courtesy, or an acknowledgment given when none was expected . . . these are the first seeds to growing a peaceful society.

If you are interested in updates on this global celebration, please visit www.peaceoneday.org and stayed tuned to the local media for a schedule of Berkshire events. "*If you build a house you start with one brick, if we want peace we must start with one day*" (Jeremy Gilley, founder of Peace One Day).

— M. Hamilton

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Grandma's Blessing

*I came to this plate, alone,
with grandma's blessing
amid candles and clinking glasses
overcast*

*and the sky has cast its umbrella
of cloud and cool upon
our summer of suns and moons
the cook too is cool and shaded
casting his vast array of home grown,
locally caught and consciously raised
the way grandma used to do
and grandma, dying of cancer,
blesses everyone and all those
who would bring war and wickedness
and sorrow upon the world
and grandma still hears the song sparrow
singing between the poppies
in the heat of the hilltown haze
so pink and red and orange
so melodious, so gay
like July teenagers, like strawberries
like 20-year-olds by the river bank
where it's all written in the sands
where beauty, like youth, is voluptuous
falling into pathways
narrowing the entrances
below the devil killers:
to where the ears envelope
to where the tongue is swimming
to where the nose discovers
to where the hands inform
to where the eyes believe*

*when, believe it or not
the bells toll eight over the harbor
sun spilling his gold coins upon the waters
From here to Monterosso
and grandma, "nona," holds the babies
walking and blessing them
into the latest game
where Giacomo still beats the ass off the aces
and asks only for a rosso refill
a little work on his shoulder
and a Vernazza sunset*

*and nona still hears the seagulls crying
over the agave and centranthus
while the wind blows in the winning hand:
a royal flush of hilltown herbs:
oregano – timo – basilico – finocchio – prezzemolo!
hands down! ("this ain't no high class bitch")
just jasmine in a white linen skirt . . .
and nona finds her way once again
into the procession of ancients
behind the saints and the savior
blessing everyone, even me
and my voluptuous plate of sin
praying for song sparrows and poppies
and another winning hand for Giacomo
otherwise known as Jack
wind at his back
down by the river bank*

— Boney Oscar



Autumn:1979

*Autumn is come
the bones of logic lurk black
beneath the leaves.
their symmetry severe
makes even memory of blossoms childish*

*love and its tender longings
sweet-pea tendrils on the trellises of hope
are withered and dry ghosts
now scraping the ground
whose meaning designated
but lentils in the end*

*air is chill with dying.
wanton glory flings crimson and gold
tokens to the winter winds
such futile bribery!
color is bugling the alarm
that from a relentless palette
of sere browns and greys
rock, ice and ringing, frozen earth
will form the picture*

*I am ashamed of exuberance
remind myself of reason
among the bare boulders of the mind
solemn, silent, wrinkled as bark
black with the sorrow of rain
I cringe and listen.*

*Autumn is come.
the bones of logic lurk black
beneath the leaves.
austere and valiant
stands the understatement of branches.
mourn with me, comfort me,
hushed, sibilant snows to come.
roots are deepening with time.
wild geese are lifted away
to softer airs
I am resigned now.
I know I shall not flower
nor love in vain
until another life
beyond the equinox of wisdom*

— A. O. Howell
(but I did! 1980)

Indian Summer

*I sat beside a mountain stream
That fell to a pool below;
The yellow leaves reflected there
Had turned the water gold;
With purple asters growing near
Their little heads held high,
And across the valley on another hill
A church spire touched the sky!
I lingered, truly awe-inspired
So tranquil was the scene
Indian Summer had cast her spell
In a day just meant to dream!*

— Eleanor Kimberley

Sun Outages Happen

*Sun outages happen
every year during the spring
and fall.
Then the sun's powerful energy
overpowers the signal
of our satellite services.
This causes reception
to be temporarily snowy
on various cable channels.
We apologize for any inconvenience
but sun outages
happen.*

— Elizabeth Caffrey

Swimming with the Leeches

Recently, in a major downtown gallery here in Monterey, I was approached by a fellow art lover. He had been present for the 2003 Monterey Town Meeting and heard me say I enjoyed swimming with the leeches, or something like that. He wanted to know if this could possibly be true.

There is a long answer to the question, also a short answer. They both start with "yes." I had to give my short answer the other day because my neighbor was on his way out of the gallery. So I said, "I like to swim in water where there are leeches because it means the water is not polluted." This could be called the Canary Answer. It is a bit of a Weasel Answer, though, because I don't really know about leeches and pollution. Maybe they can stand more pollution than I can. In this case, I would be the canary for the leech. Leech sees me and says, "There's Bonner. I guess the lake is okay today—if she can take it, I can."

Here is the longer answer to the question. Yes, I do enjoy swimming with the leeches. In the first place, I am one of the few people I know who does not have to deal with a learned phobia about creepy and crawly things. This is my good fortune and I thank my parents

for it. Secondly, the leeches I commonly encounter are easy to like. They do not intimidate me because they are so much smaller than I am. Also, they are so different from me in their approach to life that I find them educational, marvelous. As if this were not enough, each leech is a gorgeous work of art. I had mentioned

responsibly because these lakes are our playgrounds. On the surface of it, the playground image makes us think about things like health, safety, and happiness. But anyone who grew up on playgrounds, at school or in town, can look a little deeper and remember issues of turf, entitlement, and reluctance to share. Nowa-

days, the playground is a favorite arena for staging conflict resolution demos. You get a bunch of kids all wanting to play ball on the same court at the same time. They start yelling at each other. Along comes the supervisor who says, "Easy there. Let's identify the problem and then we can all put our brilliant minds together to get rid of that problem. Attack the problem, not the person."

The person whose idea of playground is a place for zooming around on a jet-ski has got a different playground in mind from mine. My playground has no spilled jet-ski fuel and loud engine noises. It has plants and animals. I can breathe the air around my playground without getting a sore throat from air

pollution.

If the playground supervisor were to get the leeches, the jet-ski person, and me together on a park bench, we would put our brilliant minds together. The incompatibility of toxic fuels and fumes with living things would emerge and we would invent a fast-moving vehicle for use on our playground. A person could sit in it



this when giving my short answer down in the art gallery.

When I went public with my pro-leech leanings it was during a Town Meeting discussion of jet-skis on the lake. A citizen from the Lake Buel part of town had just referred to the lakes as our "playgrounds," arguing that of course most of us will operate our jet-skis carefully and

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and not have to get wet, not have to play directly with the leeches. It would be powered by some renewable form of energy which is not polluting. It would be quiet. We would still have to get out of the way if it came too close, too fast, but we could all look out for each other to this extent on our playground. I look out for the leeches already. When I climb up out of the muck I check to see if any of the little beasts are lunching on me. I put them back in the lake so they will have some future.

Leech bites, unlike mosquito bites, are painless. This idea has been worked out through evolution to ensure the well-being of both the host and the guest. A good guest does not damage the host because it might be necessary to come back and have lunch at the same place again someday. Also, if your host doesn't even know you are there, you have not imposed in any way that is likely to come down on your head.

Whether you are a fish, a turtle, a snail, or a middle-aged resident of Monterey, you can spare a little blood for a leech. Some leeches do not need another meal for fifteen months. As they take in their meal, they quickly excrete the water from it so they can concentrate the nutritious food in a crop. Hirudin, the anesthetizing chemical leeches produce, may also function as a preservative. Maybe we have something to learn from leeches. Do you want to learn something about local anesthetics? About the

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Monterey can seem miles from dirty air or polluted waters; yet emissions from electric power plants fueled by coal, oil, natural gas, and nuclear power take a toll on our farmland, forests, lakes, and mountain views. Rising asthma rates and children's learning disabilities are directly connected with electricity produced from fossil fuels.

The good news is that you can make another choice. For just a few pennies a day, households, small businesses, and non-profits can "Green Up" the electricity they use each month. Massachusetts Electric Company is offering this choice to all residential and small business customers starting in October.

With one simple choice, you can have all the advantages of the reliable

procurement and storage of blood? Ask a professional bloodsucker.

I wish more people were aware of how harmless leeches are, also of how much can be learned from them. Playground Earth, as we have come to realize, is not big enough for everyone and all the toys. The choice between jet-ski and leech, for play buddy, should be obvious.

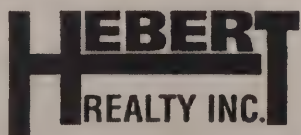
— Bonner J. McAllester

electricity you depend on while supporting the growth of environmentally responsible energy production locally and in New England. That's an investment that will benefit all future generations.

The Center for Ecological Technology (CET), a community-based nonprofit organization in the Berkshires, is offering GreenerWatts New England through Massachusetts Electric's "GreenUp" program.

Choosing GreenerWatts New England will demonstrate that people are willing to pay a small premium for cleaner, healthier electricity. This, in turn will help build wind farms, solar powered buildings, and low impact hydropower facilities. "Through our mutual concern for community and the environment, CET and Monterey residents are great partners. We hope that Monterey will lead the way," said Laura Dubester from CET.

Massachusetts Electric Company customers will receive information about this opportunity to choose GreenerWatts New England in their September bills. To find out more, call Ruth Dinerman at CET 413-445-4556, or e-mail: ruthd@cetonline.org.



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Spirit of the Waters

The common loon indigenous to the quiet lakes and peaceful waters of a pristine wilderness are not so commonly observed on our own Lake Garfield. Occasionally they stop over here on their migration in autumn to the great shining water of the Atlantic, where they spend the winter along the coasts in groups that gather there away from the icebound inland.

Loons have not nested on Lake Garfield in recent times, as far as I know, probably because of frequent water disturbance. They not only sleep on the surface but also build their nests on floating hummocks made of stems, grasses, and twigs. If we had a pair nesting here, it would be an excellent indicator of a water surface largely free of human disturbance. Obviously this is unlikely to happen, but as in the song "The Days Grow Short When You Reach September," the lake will also become quieter, and we may see one or two passing through.

Loons generally have only two chicks per year, and areas where they

reproduce are often protected, generally by volunteers, since they often use the same nesting site year after year. Other than human disturbance, predators take their toll and acid rain can curtail food supply. Still and all, loons are one of the oldest species on Earth, going back a million years or more. Their webbed feet are so far back on their bodies, like those of their ancestors the reptilians or

dinosaurs, that they are water-bound like their nearest cousins, the penguins. To take off in flight from the water requires a long smooth surface and a frantic progressive flapping of wings.

Most of the loon behavior I have enjoyed, including the tremolo or loon's laughter on a moonlit night, has happened during the annual family vacation at The Appalachian Mountain Club Summer



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Camp on a small island in Lake Winnepesaukee in New Hampshire, three miles across the water from Center Harbor. The name of this large and still primeval aquatic setting is in keeping with the nature symbolized by seeing loons: it comes from the Abenaki Indians, which in Native American means *smile of the Great Spirit*. And to this very day, for many who vacation there, the name Winnepesaukee brings a smile to the faces of those who enjoy this remarkable bird that exemplifies the true spirit of the waters as we like to think of them.

All too soon when the nights get colder, the air over Lake Garfield will be colder than the water down below, and the organic composition of the layers will begin to turn over as warm thermals rise up and colder waters sink. The sun signs of seasonal transition are subtle at first, as would be a "flyby" visit from a migrational loon. However what is subtle to some is more significant to others, and it can be both educational and recreational to increase our awareness.

— George Emmons

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Bob Duffy New President of Bidwell House Board

The Board of Directors of the Bidwell House Museum is pleased to announce the appointment of Robert Duffy as its new President. The Board also announces the election of Kathryn Roberts as Vice-President, Paula Leuchs Moats as Secretary, and Barbara Tryon as Treasurer.

Mr. Duffy, Managing Director and head of institutional sales at Ryan Beck Company, lives in Monterey and New York City with his wife Ginny, an astrologer, teacher, and counselor. Ordained a Roman Catholic priest, he received a Masters Degree in Religious Studies and Sociology. While studying for his Doctorate, he left the priesthood and began a new career on Wall Street. He has been

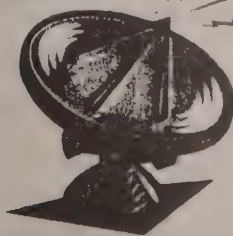
active in the cultural life of the Berkshires since the mid-1980s, and founded L'Orchestra of the Berkshires and served as chairman for three years.

Kathryn Roberts, Paula Moats, and Barbara Tryon are all residents of Monterey. Prior to Mrs. Roberts' election as Vice-President, she served as Secretary of the Museum's Board for two years. She recently chaired the first annual Bidwell House Museum Summer Fundraiser and also serves on the Board of Directors of the Monterey Preservation Land Trust. Paula Leuchs Moats, a direct descendant of Reverend Adonijah Bidwell, joined the Museum's Board in 2002. She has served or is serving for a number of nonprofit organizations, including the Manhattan Theater Club, Atlanta International School, Bryn Mawr College Alumnae Association, and Miss Hall's School. Mrs. Tryon, a retired schoolteacher, is a long-time member and docent of the Museum and a member of the Board of the Monterey Historical Society.

The Bidwell House Museum is an elegant Georgian saltbox built c. 1750 as a parsonage for Adonijah Bidwell and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The beautifully restored house offers an impressive collection of quality high country furnishings and decorative arts of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and is surrounded by 196 acres of woods, gardens, and hiking trails. The Museum is located on Art School Road and is open Tuesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., through October 13. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors, and \$2 for children.

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Two Views of "Spirit of Monterey" Concert

1

Billed by series producer June Rochedieu as a "taste of Tanglewood right here in Monterey," I'd have to agree strongly after my wife and I and a few friends from Otis were fortunate enough to attend the August 2nd concert featuring the Double String Duo.

Seated by an opened window where a breeze cooled my body and an eclectic stream of music emanating from Jason Kessler's multi-stringed guitar and Rick Ekberg's double base did the same for my spirit, I couldn't help but feel lucky to live in a town where talented area musicians are willing to perform and where our meetinghouse is there to welcome them and volunteers are willing to organize quality events like this for their neighbors.

You didn't have to be a jazz lover, though "Sunny" and "Willow Weep for Me" certainly filled the bill for me. There was something folky, "South to a Warmer Place"; something lightly classical, Vivaldi's Concerto in D Major; and a couple of arrangements of "Green-sleeves." For the purists, there was Bach.

Joel Schick, former lead singer of Gorilla Danish, joined in with a few scatty vocals, and local Monterey trumpeter

Allan Dean filled the bill of accomplished musicians on our doorstep.

Add to the serendipity of the evening the fact—as it turns out—that Allan lived in Apartment 5B on Manhattan's Westside in the sixties when we lived in 5A and that we bumped into Joel Schick at Castle Street later that evening and you have the makings of an evening that kept on giving.

More than a taste of Tanglewood, the evening was a generous buffet without the mosquitoes and the traffic. What more could a neighbor ask for?

Since another concert was scheduled for August 30, not much—except maybe a reserved seat by the window.

— Jim Mazza

2

On Saturday, August 2nd, I attended the concert by the Double String Duo held at the meetinghouse. The performers were four guys, Jason Kessler, guitars; Rick Eckberg, bass fiddle; Allan Dean, trumpet; Joel Schick, vocal.

Being not very musical, the one thing I hate is listening to music I don't know. However, in this case I was ready to put up with having to do that, as I was determined to hear Joel Schick sing. The Joel Schick I know and love for all the good things he's done around town—and in particular, for twice making (pro bono) our logo for the Monterey Land Trust. But singing? Had to go to see and hear for myself

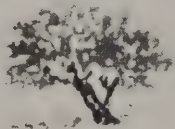
and try to keep awake as best as possible during everything that wasn't Basie or Beethoven. However, ignoramus that I am, I still know it was superb. (I know I am right in this, as Allan Dean, who was sitting next to me, obviously thought so too, even the pieces he didn't play.)

Here's what I learned: It is possible to be riveted by music and composers you've never heard, or heard of. All I can say is I sat up and listened, but good! The pieces were short (thank God) and very sweet! Everything from the sixteenth century to the present and I daresay, beyond. I enjoyed these guys and their program immensely

But to what I do know, or thought I did: Joel Schick. Monterey old-timers, you think you know Joel? That lovely guy with the ready smile scooting in and out of the post office? The illustrator and artist? Always up to some good or other? Well, if you haven't heard him sing, you've got a think coming!

Here's Joel: Off to the side in not particularly good light, singing softly and restrained right into the mike. Very sexy. I might add that he also plays some bizarre and invisible musical instrument, as he breathes out his music—fingers flying about, seeming to be playing a cello, or something like it, in the air, body twisting, eyes closed. This is not the Post Office Joel, the unassuming, regular guy Joel. This singing Joel could be a groupie icon. When he's into his music, he's not in the world. He's gone. And we go with him.

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He is on top of his tunes, and I'm sure organized the band—these are three classical musicians he was playing with; I'm not sure they should even be referred to as "the band." However, this "band" was great and gave him what he needed. The three classicists played their own very neat jazz riffs, Allan's pure trumpet loud and clear!

The Duo closed the concert magnificently with Vivaldi's Concerto in D Major—a composer, at least, that I know. Rick, the bassist, announced that the piece was written for lute and chamber orchestra. Rick told us that Jason would be the lute on his twelve string guitar (as opposed to his "regular" one that took him two years to get just right—so he and it could do something or other just right, which he and it did indeed do all night long) and he, Rick, the chamber orchestra. What a tour de force! What playing and what a piece of music! The concert was over to a standing ovation. It took all of an hour and a half. The time flew! Rick closed by saying, "You've been a great audience—we played a lot of odd-ball stuff up here." Well maybe, but amazingly I dug it, every bit.

They will be back on August 30th. Joel will be joined by vocalist Mary Haggerty from Lenox. Jason has written music for and will perform a poem (now a song) about Monterey by June Rochedieu, the organizer of these events. The concerts are given to benefit the Monterey Meetinghouse, and took a lot

P. O. Box 9, 01245

What Is a Lake for?

To the Editor:

I read the article last month entitled "Of Fish and Phosphorous." I certainly agree with the authors that we need to be thoughtful about our lakes and not "keep dumping all that bad stuff." Beyond that, ecology is a tricky business. Ideas like "invasive," "hostile," "dead lake," and "nuisance weeds" assume way too much understanding of definition and purpose. "What is a lake for?" would be a good topic for a study group around here. Is it for human recreation? Is it for wildlife? Is it for stocking with fish so folks can enjoy catching them? Is it for me to be able to look at little creatures who live in the muck? Is it for the little creatures in the muck to live their lives undisturbed by jet-ski fuel spills? These are confusing questions and the article in the August *Monterey News* was also confusing. We are told that some plants are bad but the indigenous

of doing. June deserves a lot of credit and thanks from music lovers and non. Those of you who missed this concert, missed an extraordinarily good thing. Be there next time. You'll be glad you came.

— Joyce Scheffey

ones are good. This seems safe enough, in today's politically correct environment. But aren't the lily pads indigenous? There's a little patch in a cove on the north side of the "big lake" that I've been visiting for fifty years. So far they are not "paving over" the water. I disagree that Smiley's Pond in South Egremont is a "dead pond." We've watched an otter in the winter bring a big fish out onto the ice there. There are always lots of ducks, herons, insects galore in the summers. And if the indigenous plants are to be encouraged, somebody should get right on the soap box (non-phosphate, of course) to end the death-dealing practice of lake drawdown. It kills so indiscriminately and it is so last year.

This tough language about death and hostility is satisfying to use. It makes me feel I might get someone's attention. I have to be careful, though, not to scare anyone too much. People are too scared about too many things right now for me to want to hit them with the idea that "eutrophication" means death. A quick look in the dictionary reveals that this is a Greek word meaning "well-nourished." This does not scare me. But it does make me mad to have someone tell me I should, "Be afraid! Be very afraid!" Let me decide what to be afraid of: I am not afraid of pondweeds.

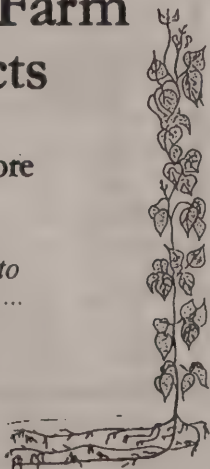
— Bonner McAllester

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Workshop on the Natural Wonders of Monterey

Saturday, September 13, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Monterey Meetinghouse

The "Biodiversity Team" from U. Mass returns to Monterey, after its previous standing-room-only presentation, to offer a workshop about the natural wonders of our town. The workshop will allow participants to better understand the issues which surround biodiversity and to examine the extent of plant and animal life on their own property.

*Sponsored by The Monterey Preservation Land Trust
as a part of its annual meeting*

Light refreshments will be served. Everyone is welcome!

PO Box 9, 01245

The Most Unkind Cut of All

To the Editor:

I refer to the July 2003 edition of the *Monterey News*. Your cover page referring to "Summer Residents Return" was most unkind. We have been "Summer Residents" for 8 years now in Monterey. We shop at the Monterey General Store, contribute to LakeFest, contribute to the Lake Garfield Association, utilize the post office, purchase from local vendors, and have followed every rule and requirement regarding zoning and land decrees, dock permits, and the like. We also contribute to your paper. To insult your readers is the most unkind cut of all. It would be nice to think the paper carries a degree of sophistication as well as being informative and entertaining. This type of commentary is hurtful and particularly inappropriate by a newspaper published under the auspices of a church. I imagine the "summer residents" become the laughing stock of such reporting. While we are not welcome, which you make very clear, I believe we have helped your community to prosper while living our lives, just as you do. We are here just trying to enjoy nature's bounty and beauty—you obviously do not wish us to share in the area in which you live.

— Lynne Quagliata

Concerns about McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarship

To the Editor:

I am writing from North Carolina, where Lis and I are creating a new "Gould Farm." Fortunately, the *Monterey News* has kept up with us and I have just caught up on the important events of our cherished home town.

In the August edition, I read about Claire Mielke's stellar accomplishments and wish to congratulate her on her acceptance to the Coast Guard Academy. As someone who received an appointment to the US Air Force Academy many years ago, I know about the significant challenges she has met to get this far.

In my past, some of you will remember that I was President of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation and actually worked with Edith Wilson as she created the McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarship Fund. Therefore, my interest was piqued by Rick Mielke's letter expressing his chagrin about Claire's not having received a scholarship from the Fund this year.

It appears that at the base of this issue is a fundamental misunderstanding. Scholarship payments may only be made for outstanding educational expenses. Since Claire's expenses are essentially covered by her mandatory 'boot camp' wages and since her primary "scholarship" is provided by the U.S government's

support of the Academy, she seems to have no outstanding financial expenses, which could be paid for by a scholarship.

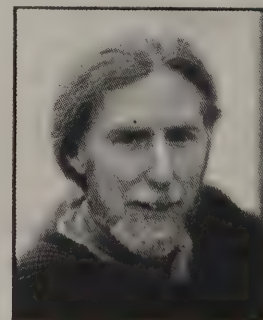
So, yes, Clarie seems to deserve the accolades of the community and the Fund Committee, but Rick and the readers of the *News* should understand that the Committee probably had no choice but to withhold a scholarship since there are no outstanding expenses to cover.

Congratulations on your good work, Claire!

— Virgil Stucker, Mill Spring, N C
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25 Years of Contradancing at the Sheffield Grange

Contradancing at the Sheffield Grange has been a fixture on the calendar for twenty-five years—the fourth Saturday every month (except December). This month, on Saturday, September 27, the dance will be a special fund-raiser for the Grange itself, which is in need of support for building maintenance.

Back in the early to mid twentieth century, there were regular dances at most of the Grange halls in this area; many of our current “old-timers” here in Monterey recall attending the dances as teenagers, when the square dances were “where the action was.” That form of social gathering faded away in the 1960s for the most part, but a revival of contra and square dancing during the mid ’70s resulted in the formation of the South Berkshire band Mountain Laurel, which began doing regular dances in the area in 1977 and moved the series into the Sheffield Grange in 1978. In fact, when the contradance series started, the Grange gave the band the old sign which had hung on the front lawn for years, advertising a “Dance Every Sat.” The sign is still hung out each month for the week leading up to the current dance and says “Dance Sat Night.”

Square and contradancing are both

derived from English country dancing, which in turn had evolved from continental courtroom dances such as the minuet and the gigue. Colonists brought the dance traditions with them from England, but of course it wasn’t long before the settlers, whose ancestries included Irish, Scottish, Norwegian, Swedish, and French, began to exert influences on the dances and the music. In New England a somewhat less constrained, more energetic strain of the dances rapidly developed, evolving into what is known as contradancing and New England-style square dancing. In these two forms the figures used are more or less the same, but the formation is different. In a square dance, each couple dances with only three other couples for the duration of that particular dance, in a set or square of four couples. A contradance set, on the other hand, may be as long as the hall (or hayfield) will allow; each couple stands as part of long parallel lines of dancers, which might contain twelve to fifteen couples. During the contradance, each couple moves through the line, up and down the hall, dancing with every other couple in the set in turn. Each dance consists of a pattern of figures like “right-hand star” and “swing your partner.”

At all the dances at the Sheffield Grange, the caller teaches the figures and the dances before the music starts up, so

it is easy for newcomers to learn the figures to dance and the patterns in which they occur. Beginners are always welcome, and the core of seasoned dancers (some have been attending for all twenty-five years!) is always willing to help out when someone gets a bit lost.

The Grange building is in need of work on its electrical system, its paint job, and of course the dance floor itself, a large expanse of lovely maple. So please come join Mountain Laurel on September 27 for a special evening of enjoyment. Come early to a potluck supper, starting at 6:30 p.m.; the dance begins at 8:30. The caller for the dance will be Mountain Laurel’s own Joe Baker, who will be emerging from retirement for this occasion. The band features Donny MacLean (fiddle), Bonner McAllester (hammered dulcimer), and Joe Baker (guitar). Admission will be the regular \$6 for adults, \$3 for children. For more information please call 413-528-9385 or e-mail jbaker@berkshire.net.

— Joe Baker



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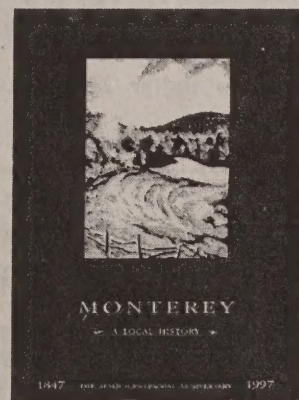
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Calendar

Every Monday (exc. holidays): Select Board meeting, 8:30 a.m.–noon, Town Offices.

Every Saturday through September: Meeting of Lake Garfield Torah Study Group. For information call 528-3193.

Monday, September 1: Labor Day, Town Offices closed.

Sunday, September 7: Seventh Annual Epicurean Tomato Fete, Eastover, Lenox. Information 413-229-8316. See p. 8.

Wednesday, September 10: Full Moon

Thursday, September 11: Free blood pressure clinic, 2:30–3:30 p.m., Town Hall, administered by Visiting Nurses Assoc.

Saturday, September 13: First Annual Slow Food Berkshire Columbia Food Festival, 11 a.m.–4 p.m., Shaker Museum & Library, Old Chatham, N.Y. Information 518-794-9100. See p. 9.

Saturday, September 20:

Harvest Program for Children, 10 a.m.–noon, Bidwell House Museum Vegetable Garden. See p. 9 or call 413-528-6888 to register.

Fall Harvest Festival, noon–4 p.m., Bidwell House Museum. Admission \$5, children under 12 free. See p. 6.

Sunday, September 21: International Day of Peace. See p. 11.

Monday, September 22: Berkshire

Grown's Fifth Annual Beautiful Bountiful Berkshires food festival, Eastover, Lenox. Information & reservations 413-528-0041. See p. 9.

Saturday, September 27:

Square and contra dancing, 8:30–11:30 p.m., Sheffield Grange, Rt. 7, Sheffield. Music by Mountain Laurel, calling by Joe Baker. Special 25th anniversary celebration to benefit Grange building maintenance. Potluck beginning at 6:30 p.m. All dances are taught, beginners and children are welcome. Refreshments at intermission. Adults \$6, children \$3. Information 528-9385. See p. 21.

Highland Communities Initiative conference on "The Future of the Highlands: Strategies for Sustaining Rural Communities," 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m., Gateway Regional High School, Huntington. Information, registration 413-587-0716, ext. 14, or www.highlandcommunities.org.

First day of Rosh Hashanah.

Contributors

We are grateful to the following readers for recent contributions to the *Monterey News*.

Stefan & Stephanie Grotz
Elizabeth Menaker

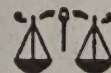


Maureen McFarland and Neil McGinnis Married

Neil E. McGinnis and Maureen L. McFarland were married at 4 p.m. on August 5, 2003, at Bidwell Park, Monterey. They reside at 423 Main Road in Monterey.



CHARLES J. FERRIS Attorney at Law



342 Main St. Gt. Barrington, MA 01230
617 Main Rd. PO Box 63
Monterey, MA 01245

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WATERWAYS REGULATION PROGRAM

Notice of Amnesty Interim Approval Application pursuant to G.L. Chapter 91A Amnesty Interim Approval Application No. W96-6008.

Public notice is hereby given of the applications by Alan and Kathryn Klingenstein to maintain an existing dock in the municipality of Monterey in Lake Garfield. No new activity is proposed to be authorized under this application.

The Department will consider all written comments on this application received within 30 days of the publication of this notice. Failure of any aggrieved person or group of ten or more citizens to submit written comments to the Waterways Regulation Program within 30 days of the publication of this notice will result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing in accordance with 310 CMR 9.13(4)(c).

For more information on this application call (617) 556-1134. Written comments must be addressed to: Ben Lynch, Program Chief, DEP Waterways Regulation Program, One Winter Street-6th Floor, Boston, MA 02108.

Town of Monterey

Regular Meeting Schedules of Town Boards

(Meetings are monthly and at Town Offices unless otherwise noted.)

Appeals, Board of (Peter Murkett, Chair) — As required

Assessors, Board of — To be announced

Cemetery Committee (Linda Thorpe, Chair) — Bimonthly (starting January),
1st Thursday, 7 p.m.

Conservation Commission (Chris Blair, Chair) — 2nd Monday, 6 p.m.

Health, Board of (Robert Lazzarini, Chair) — 1st & 3rd Fridays, 3:30 p.m.

Library Trustees (Will Marsh, Chair) — 2nd Monday (exc. July, August,
December), 7 p.m., Library

Park Commission (Leroy Thorpe, Chair) — 1st Monday, 9 a.m.

Planning Board (Gerry Shapiro, Chair) — 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 7 p.m.

School District Committee (Rick Mielke, Monterey representative) — Alternate
Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Mt. Everett Reg. School, Sheffield

Select Board (Peter Brown, Chair) — Mondays (exc. legal holidays), 8:30 a.m.;
evenings by appt.

Regular Office Hours

(Town Offices telephone: 413-528-1443)

Assessors' Clerk (Patricia Amstead) — To be announced

Tax Collector (Henry Makuc; Asst., Mari Enoch) — Mondays, 7-9 p.m., home
office (413-644-0299)

Town Clerk (Barbara Swann; Asst., Linda Thorpe) — Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.-
12:30 p.m., Town Offices

Town Offices (Bonnie Jurgenson, Administrative Asst.) — Monday through
Friday, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Transfer Station Hours

Summer (Daylight Savings)

Sunday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Wednesday: 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Winter

Sunday: 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Wednesday: 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Library Hours

Monday: 7-9 p.m.

Tuesday: 9:30 a.m.-noon

Wednesday: 3-5 p.m.

Saturday: 9:30 a.m.-noon & 7-9 p.m.

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Low temp. (8/24) 45°

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Avg. low temp. 59.8°

Avg. temp. 69.1°

Total rainfall 6.07" on 18 days



Applicants for Town Assessor Sought

The Monterey Select Board is seeking applicants for appointment to the office of Assessor. All interested parties are invited to contact the Board or present themselves at the Select Board regular Monday morning meeting at Town Hall.

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Editor Will Marsh
Asst. Editor Glynis Oliver
Reporters K. Wasiuk
..... George Emmons
Mailing Labels Joe Baker
Business Manager Barbara Tryon
Treasurer Mari Enoch

Our editorial address is *Monterey News*,
P. O. Box 9, Monterey, MA, 01245. We
invite signed letters, articles, drawings,
poetry, and photographs from readers.
Please send submissions (e-mail or com-
puter disk if possible) by the 20th of the
month before publication, addressed to
the Editor. Send any change of address,
or initial request to receive the *News* by

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Manager. We will typeset a text-only ad
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vice, or event, or advertisers may submit
a computer formatted ad with graphics.
Address request for advertising rates and
further information to the Editor, or tele-
phone us at 413-528-4347 or e-mail
wilmarsh@localnet.com.

MONTEREY NEWS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
MONTEREY, MA 01245

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Contributions from local artists this month:

Pat Arnow, pp. 6, 8, 9, 12, 20, 23;

George Emmons, p. 16; Bonner McAllester, p. 14.

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